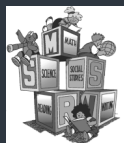




"Once social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot un-educate the person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person who feels pride."

You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid anymore. "

Cesar Chavez Address to the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco, Nov. 9, 1984



**nebraska
department of
education**

Nebraska Mexican American Commission invites you to celebrate Hispanic Month

The Nebraska Mexican American Commission and the planning committee of the Hispanic Heritage Month State Commemoration would like to invite everyone to attend and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month. The celebration will be held on Friday, October 10th, from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. here in Lincoln at the State Capitol Building.

We will be recognizing individuals and groups that have made a significant impact on the lives of Latinos in Nebraska. Additionally, there will be entertainment, speakers, a parade of flags, recognition of young filmmakers, and the presentation of "La Familia Award". The 2008 "My hero" essay contest winners will be also announced at the event.

Once again, the Hispanic Heritage Month State Commemoration will take place on Friday, October 10th from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the State Capitol Building.

For more information, contact Angel Freytez at 471-2791. The event is completely free, and open to all public.

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HONORING OUR HERITAGE

HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH
STATE COMMEMORATION



Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 - October 15

Hispanic Heritage Month begins on September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries—Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico declared its independence on September 16, and Chile on September 18.

The term Hispanic, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau, refers to Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. On the 2000 Census form, people of Spanish/Hispanic/Latino origin could identify themselves as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or "other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino." More than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino on the 2000 Census. Source: <http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhm1.html>

**LATINO
SUMMIT**

OCTOBER 6

**EMBASSY SUITES
OMAHA**

REGISTER ONLINE

[http://
www.latinosummit.org/](http://www.latinosummit.org/)

Latino Summit—October 6 Omaha Nebraska

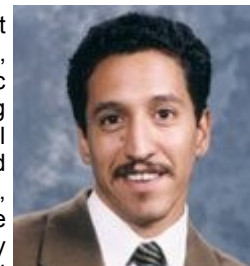
Señor Chocolate

Señor Chocolate, a tough-talking Latino gangster, arrives on stage with trade-mark baggy pants, shades, trench coat and a red bandanna. Using a thick Spanish accent to make his point, he begins with accounts of his personal gang-life experiences to illustrate gang attitudes and behaviors. He challenges his audience to critically assess their own perceptions. He asks them to acknowledge the fact that violence and hopelessness will continue to affect our communities if apathy persists. After sharing his gang-life experiences, Señor Chocolate presents The Change; an apt metaphor long to be remembered. While shedding his gang clothing, he explains The Change that occurred in his life - and can occur in anyone's life. Richard Santana emerges, dressed in a shirt and tie - as a college graduate, educator, counselor, colleague and friend.



Richard Santana

From his youth as a tough-talking Latino gangster to his present role as a college- educated nationally recognized presenter, Richard Santana's journey provides a powerful and graphic illustration of the true implications of cultural relevance in defining the human condition. His moving accounts of how his personal gang- life experiences shaped his beliefs, attitudes and expectations for himself as a young person are both inspiring, unsettling and thought-provoking as he challenges his audience to critically assess their own perceptions of the young people they serve. His message is one of making choices: between hope and hopelessness, between evaluating young people based upon our standards or accepting them in the context of their own, between giving up on our most challenged youth or truly becoming change agents in their lives.



Additional sessions:

Undocumented Student in Higher Education
Migrant Education Parent Involvement
IncluCity
District Success Story: Achievement Gap
Understanding Title III Accountability
Collaborating the Global Economy
Omaha South High Dual Language
It Starts with Me

More sessions and descriptions on the website

Sponsored by the Nebraska Department of Education and the Nebraska Mexican American Commission. Registration is FREE. Schedule of events and online registration available at the website.

<http://www.latinosummit.org/>

Building Hispanic Month Activities



Website teacher resources

TeacherVision: <http://www.teachervision.fen.com/hispanic-heritage-month/south-america/6629.html>
The History Channel: <http://www.history.com/classroom/hhm>
National Register of Historic Places: <http://www.nps.gov/history/nR/feature/hispanic/>
FactMonster.com: <http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhm1.html>
Education World: http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson023.shtml
Smithsonian Education: http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/
The Library of Congress: <http://www.loc.gov/topics/hispanicheritage/>
Montgomery Schools: <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/socialstd/Hispanic.html>
Teacher Scholastic: <http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/hispanic/>
AOL Latino: <http://tuvida.aol.com/especiales/hispanic-heritage-month>
Info Please: <http://www.infoplease.com/spot/hhm1.html>
Color in Colorado: <http://www.colorincolorado.org/calendar/celebrations/hhm/>

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH BEAT

Who dares to teach
must never cease to
learn.

John Cotton Dana

Mexican American Commission Resources



The Nebraska Mexican American Commission website features many resources that could be useful to both administrators and teachers. One such resource is titled *Educational Achievement and the Successful Integration of Latinos in Nebraska: A Statistical Profile to Inform Policies and Programs*. It was prepared by Lourdes Gouveia, Ph.D., Director, Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS), and Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska at Omaha and Mary Ann Powell, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Nebraska at Omaha. The Preface of the document begins "This report has been prepared by the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS) at the request of the Nebraska Mexican American Commission (MAC). It is, in part, an update of earlier reports prepared for the commission by the Bureau of Business Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, entitled "The Educational Status of Hispanics in Nebraska: A Statistical Profile," Volume 1, 1992, and "The Educational Status of Hispanics/Latinos in Nebraska: A Statistical Profile," Volume 2, 1997." The entire document is available on line at the MCA website.

Other resources include the MAC's newsletter highlighting their activities and events, links to other publications, listings and information about area events and current issues, and external links to other helpful sights for both community members and educators.

The Nebraska Mexican American Commission is located on the 6th floor of the Nebraska State Capitol and is accessible by the northeast elevator. They can be contacted at Mexican American Commission, State Capitol, 6th Floor, P.O. Box 94965, Lincoln, NE 68509-4965; via email: macinfo@mac.ne.gov; or phone: (402) 471-2791 or 1-877-220-1250.

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH BEAT

The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn and change.

Carl Rogers



Enhance your professional library.

Viva La Causa: The Story of Cesar Chavez and a Great Movement for Social Justice.

Teaching Tolerance magazine is offering a FREE kit to schools grades 7 and up! The kit includes a 39 minute DVD and teacher's guide with standards-based lesson plans.

Go to www.teachingtolerance.org/lacausa to order your kit!

Florida Department of Education Recommends Books for Hispanic Heritage Month

This recommended reading list provides a variety of suggested books by grade level for children of all ages, as well as a selection of suggested books for adult reading. Just Read, Florida! makes reading a priority in Florida's public schools and among the community groups and volunteer organizations that support them. This recommended reading list serves that goal while increasing students' interest in the many aspects and contributions of Hispanic.

The entire list of books, divided by age and grade levels can be found at http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/heritage_month/. Here is a sample.

Books for Grades PreK–2

My Mexico by Tony Johnston.
Gathering the Sun: An Alphabet in Spanish and English by Alma Flor Ada.
Nacho and Lolita by Pam Munoz Ryan.
Salsa Stories by Lulu Delacre.
Yagua Days by Cruz Martel.

Books for Grades 3–5

Calling the Doves/El Encanto De Las Palomas by Juan Felipe Herrera
The Day It Snowed Tortillas: A Classic from the American Southwest by Joe Hayes
How Tia Lola Came to Stay by Julia Alvarez
My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz by Monica Brown.
Latino Read-Aloud Stories: Best Loved Collections from Latino Culture. by Maite Suarez Rivas.
Call Me Maria by Judith Ortiz Cofer.
The Most Beautiful Place in the World by Ann Cameron.

Family Pictures by Carmen Lomas Garza.

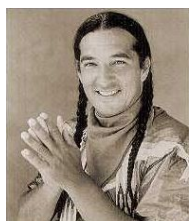
Hope: The Story of Caesar Chavez by Kathleen Krull.
the o Novel A Goodness: Small by Tony Johnston

Books for Grades 6–8

The Corn Grows Ripe by Dorothy Rhoads.
Cuba 15 by Nancy Osa.
Harvesting Hope: The Story of Caesar Chavez by Kathleen Krull.
Downtown Boy by Juan Felipe Herrera.
Firefly Summer by Pura Belpre.
In the Shade of the Nispero Tree by Carmen T. Bernier Grand.
The Tree is Older Than You Are by Naomi Shihab Nye.
Esperanza Rising by Pam Munoz Ryan..
Becoming Naomi Leon by Pam Munoz



Attend, learn, networking,
enjoy.



Kevin Locke

**CULTURAL
PRESENTATION
AND
PERFORMANCE**

When Kevin Locke (Lakota) performs the Hoop Dance, audiences around the world light up with curiosity, appreciation, hope and joy. He is known as a visionary, a preeminent player of the indigenous Northern Plains flute, traditional storyteller, cultural ambassador, recording artist and educator. Unity of humankind is reflected in this

dance, employing 28 hoops, interlocking into a spherical union.

Kevin received training in the values, traditions and language of his native culture. He is a dance and musical hero and role model for youth around the world.

**Native American Symposium
November 13
Wayne State College**

www.nde.state.ne.us/nativeamer



**Mary Schlieder
Special Guest Speaker**

**2008 Nebraska
Teacher of the Year**

Mary Schlieder is a special educator and author of *With Open Arms: Creating School Communities of Support Using Circle of Friends, Extracurricular Activities, and Staff Learning Teams*. She has worked as a resource teacher with kids grades 6-12 with social and behavior challenges

for the past 10 years and is passionate about sharing simple, inexpensive techniques which are easily implemented by busy staff in the school setting. Both will be her topics for breakout sessions

Additional Sessions: Success and Struggles for Implementing Positive Behavior; Living together in a Color Box; Cyberbullying; Responding to an Active Shooter in Your School; IncluCity and more

EDUCATOR'S CONFERENCE BEAT

Early Childhood Training Series designed by the Nebraska Department of Education's Early Childhood Team for all pre-school and day care providers.

REGISTRATION

Registration is free and required.

CONFERENCE WORKSHOP BEAT



Area and regional conferences for staff development

13th Annual Plum Creek Children's Literacy Festival
Early Childhood, Elementary, Secondary and Adult Offerings

October 10, 2008, Children's Day for commuting schools
October 11, 2008 Adult Conference Day

Each year thousands of children and adults arrive on the campus of Concordia University in Seward to find nationally known authors, illustrators and literacy experts, dozens of activities and lots of books. Authors appearing, Joan Bauer, Cynthia DeFelice, Gail

18th Annual International Conference National Association for Multicultural Education
Beyond Celebrating Diversity: ReACTivating the Equity and Social Justice Roots of Multicultural Education

November 12-16, 2008, New Orleans. www.nameorg.org/conferences.html

Heartland Latino Leadership Conference and Expo

November 7-10, 2008, Omaha NE
Enlightening leadership experts on education, business, community, self-development and health & human services. www.latinoleadership.info

A Framework for Understanding Poverty by Ruby K. Payne, Ph.D.

November 4-5, 2008 Atlanta, Georgia
A two day workshop designed to help you understand and learn how to work with students from poverty. The workshop is valuable for all school personnel from administrators to counselors, to all educators.

9 Strategies for Prevent Middle and High School Dropouts

September 25-26, 2008 Denver, October 14-15, 2008 Chicago
October 28-29, 2008 Indianapolis, December 9-10, 2008 Houston

For all educators of students grades 7-12 who are involved in or responsible for school improvement plans. www.ahaprocess.com

Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders

October 16-17, 2008, Kansas State University-Overland Park, KS
www.msldb.org

National At Risk Education Seminar

February 17-19, 2009, Florida
<http://www.atriskeducation.net/news/>

2008 October 23-26
NIEA 39th Annual Convention **Seattle**

THE ONLY NATIONAL NATIVE GATHERING PLACE FOR EDUCATION!
www.niea.org

Convention Site:
Washington State Convention & Trade Center

Host Hotel:
Seattle Sheraton Hotel (1blk)
1400 6th Avenue
Phone: (206) 621-9000

Crowne Plaza Hotel (2 blks)
1113 6th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
Phone: (888) 237-9527

CASSANDRA MANUELLI-O'KERRET
Keynote

BILLY FRANKS, JR.
Keynote

SHERMIN ALEXIE, JR.
Keynote

COACH DALE BROWN
Keynote

Reading and Writing Grants

Carnegie/New York Times: Exceptional Librarians

The Carnegie/New York Times I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users to recognize exceptional public, academic, and school librarians. Users may nominate a librarian online based on the quality of service that the nominee has provided, the librarian's demonstrated knowledge of the library and its resources, and the nominee's commitment to helping library users. Maximum award: \$5,000, a plaque, and a \$500 travel stipend to attend an awards reception in New York hosted by the New York Times on Dec. 9, 2008. A plaque will also be given to each award winner's library. Eligibility: public, school, and academic librarians. Deadline: public librarians -- Oct. 1, 2008; school and academic librarians -- Oct. 15, 2008.

Toyota/NCFL: Family Literacy Teacher Award

The Toyota Family Literacy Teacher of the Year Award is given to educators, selected by the National Center for Family Literacy, who demonstrate exemplary efforts to help parents and children achieve their academic and non-academic goals. Nominations must be placed online. Maximum award: \$7,500. Eligibility: any educator who strives to help families improve their literacy skills. Deadline: Dec. 5, 2008.

Reader's Digest foundation: Make It Matter

Grants will identify people who stores of giving back inspire others. The foundation will donate funds to a nonprofit organization that is associated either with a particular story or cause. Selected stories will appear every month in a new Make it Matter column and at www.rd.com, beginning April 2009. Maximum award \$100,000. Eligibility, anyone can submit a story but grant recipients must be 501(c)(3). Deadline: January 1, 2009.

**GRANT
BEAT**

Reading to children losing out to television and dinner

Fresh evidence has shown that the decline in parents reading aloud to their children has deepened over the past two years, with busy lives, dinner and TV all getting in the way of a story at bedtime.

A survey of more than 1,500 parents by books charity Booktrust found that only one in three parents are reading to their children daily, down from 43% two years ago. The average four to five-year-old spends twice as long watching TV every week as they do reading with their parents, while secondary school starters spend more time doing their chores (46 minutes) than reading with their parents (41 minutes). The average 11 to 12-year-old is in front of the television for 8 and a half hours a week, surfing the internet for four hours 14 minutes and reading alone for only three hours 19 minutes, Booktrust found.

Parents blamed their busy lives, fatigue and having to cook dinner, but

Booktrust director Viv Bird stressed the importance of reading together at a young age to prepare children for later life. "I think that modern life is more stressful - people are working harder and longer hours, and also there is more competition amongst the leisure activities children can do such as playing on the computer, and watching television or DVDs. Time just gets squeezed," she said. "That's why reading before bedtime is such an important routine to get into - it's a time for children to talk to parents about their day, an opportunity to touch base at the end of a long day."



"Encouraging pleasure and enjoyment of reading needs the support of parents - just spending that time helps children have fun with books," she continued. "Ultimately we know that if young people are reading in their leisure time they are more likely to go on and achieve."

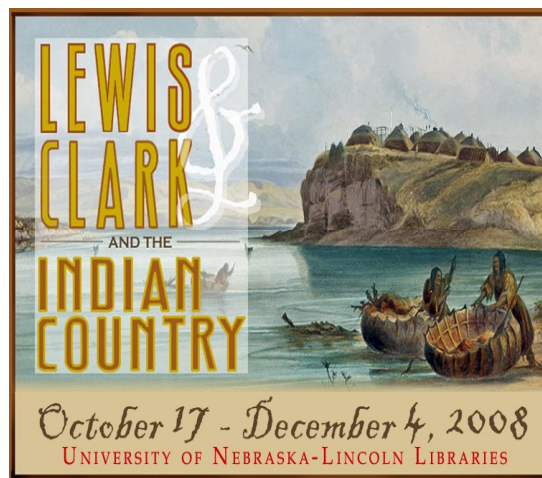
CULTURAL THINGS TO DO BEAT



Student Matinees at the Lied Center: UNL Cultural Events

The Lied Center for Performing Arts has designed performances for schools that include a day in Lincoln sight seeing. Visit their website to arrange this event, download programs and gather more information. The Nebraska Arts Council also has grants available to attend.

Kevin Locke Native Dance Ensemble, November 14 (he will also perform at the Nebraska Department of Education's Native American Symposium November 13.)



<http://iris.unl.edu/lewisandclark2008/index.html>

Celebrate American Indian Heritage Month

The Nebraska Department of Education has worked with the Great Platte River Road Archway in Kearney to bring a dynamic program to schools or family event.

Native American Crafts
Buffalo woman Reenactment
Sign Language and more

Programs are October 31, November 7,
November 14 and November 20.

Visit their website for cost and additional
Information www.archway.org
or contact Ronnie at 308-237-1000 ext 102





New Look at School Milk

Milk and other dairy products can and should be an important part of the school experience. The need to encourage milk and dairy consumption at school is clear, given the documented gap between recommended and actual dairy consumption among children, adolescents and teens and the critical relationship between dairy's nutrient package and health. Studies demonstrate that simple practices can help promote milk consumption in children, and these strategies can be pursued by schools with confidence that they are consistent with good overall health.

While milk has historically been an anchor of reimbursable school meals, opportunities exist to help close the gap between current and recommended dairy intake – and along with it the nutrients associated with dairy foods – through additional milk offerings in schools. Promoting healthy dairy products – not just in the cafeteria, but also through vending and a la carte sales – is a good way to reduce consumption of low nutrient beverages.

A variety of types of milk offerings across a range of school venues will help ensure that students obtain maximum nutritional benefits as a result of access to products they prefer.

Promote your school and get free information at www.nutritionexplorations.org



KIDS ARE IN A
CALCIUM CRISIS

- ✓ Research supports dairy's role in school wellness
- ✓ Milk, cheese and yogurt are among the most nutritious choices at school
- ✓ 77% of children 9-19 do not meet dairy recommended intake
- ✓ Schools need wellness and balanced approach policies



BACK PAGE

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Native American Advisory Council Meeting

Wayne State College
November 13

RSVP Peg Kirby at
peg.kirby@nebraska.gov

It's scholarship season again!

Carol Rempp

This time of year I love cheering on my Nebraska Husker football and volleyball teams. Excitement builds as our volleyball team continues to perform well and as we continue to see improvement in our football team. But there is more to be excited about than just fall athletics. It's the time of year to get your juniors—yes, I said juniors—and seniors thinking about college. I can already hear you saying, “But school just started!” That's right, with these warm days that feel more like summer than fall it's hard for us to think about how fast the year can fly by but it can and usually does.

Scholarship season usually runs from January to April with some scholarships due as early as September and some as late as July. However, just like any good team, preparation begins long before the athlete ever takes the court and sometimes the most decisive events can happen early in the game (the deadline for the Gates Millennium Scholarship is due January 12, 2009!) Now is the time to be searching for scholarships, writing drafts of essays, and gathering all of the important information you will need when it comes to filling

out all those forms.

A few hints:

*DO NOT apply for just one or two scholarships. You may need to apply for as many as 50 in order to get enough to pay for your schooling. In keeping with the sports theme this is a long rally. You most likely aren't going to score a kill on the first serve to win the game. You have to be persistent and keep looking and looking and looking until you find the scholarships that you meet the qualifications for, the ones that meet your needs, and the ones that you actually are awarded.

*DO NOT give up after one or two rejection letters. If you have applied for lots of scholarships, expect lots of rejection letters. BUT, think how great it will be when you get the one that says yes! You may have several three and out situations before you finally score a touchdown.

*Search the internet. Check with local organizations. Talk to your school counselor. Call EducationQuest. Search the internet again. Call the financial aid office of the schools your interested in. Think creatively! Talk to military recruiters. Someone

somewhere has the money you need to go to college. You just have to find it.

*If you are American Indian, are you a registered tribal member? Do you know with which tribe? Do you have your documentation papers? If not, find them. You will need them for almost all scholarships specifically for American Indians.

College is a goal that is attainable for everyone. Getting there or finding the resources is not always an easy or one stop event but with persistence you can do it. Start early, work hard for four full quarters and you can achieve your career dreams!

American Indian Graduate Center
www.aigc.com

Catching the Dream
www.catchingthedream.org

The Gates Millennium Scholars
www.gmsp.org

UNCF (United Negro College Fund)
www.uncf.org

Hispanic Scholarship Fund
www.hsf.net

Hispanic College Fund
www.hispanicfund.org

EducationQuest Foundation
www.educationquest.org

